



Renovations	Autism Awareness
Wise Auditorium to receive an upgrade as soon as 2018.	The occupational therapy program educates students on what autism is.
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THE DRUM BEAT

The Independent Student Media of Tyler Junior College

thedrumbeat.com

Tyler, Texas

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Despite slump, Apaches remain fearless



Photo by Benjamin Savallo

BOMBS AWAY Sophomore Infielder Jarrod Wells glances at the ball after sending a skyrocket into the outfield before speeding down the baseline during the double-header against TCS Post Grad Academy on Friday, April 14.

No. 5 ranked baseball keeps focus on four-peat

Benjamin Savallo
Sports Editor

After dropping five of the last seven games to LSU-Eunice, Weatherford and one to TCS Post Grad, and having been dropped down to the No. 5 spot in the national rankings, the Apaches are steaming towards the end of the 2016-2017 regular season.

"It means absolutely nothing," said Baseball Head Coach Doug Wren on his thoughts of national rankings. "I've gone into the national tournament ranked number three in the country and we won it, we've had teams go in ranked lower than that and it has no bearing on how we compete and go about our business every day."

Wren's team shows no sign of doubt that they will be back to defend their national title after coming off of a 13-game winning streak that began on March 12 in a 10-9 win over the No. 8 ranked (at the time) team in Division II, East Central Community College. TJC improved their record to 12-9 after escaping with a victory.

"We went in there with a positive mindset and everything started clicking for us," said sophomore Pitcher James Kuykendall, the TJC leader in strikeouts. "Our hitters started hitting, our pitchers started pitching well, defense played well; didn't have too many errors. So, when you're clicking on all cylinders like that we're going to be hard to beat."

During this hot streak, TJC was able to sweep the

— see BASEBALL page 5 —

International Day promotes diversity

Rebecca Najera
Editor-in-Chief

Each spring semester, students are given the opportunity to travel around the world for one day.

The 27th Annual International Day was held Tuesday, April 18 in the Apache Rooms.

"So much learning happens that is impossible to learn from a book, from a TV, from internet; it is just right there," said Dr. Manouchehr Khosrowshahi, government professor and founder of International Day.

Tables covered with artifacts and information about many countries filled the Apache Rooms. Either music or information constantly played throughout the event. Entertainment rarely stopped. Ensembles from the Apache Band had performances, students and guests performed dances and sang songs from different cultures along with appearances from guest speakers.

The U.S. Passport Office even had a table set up where students, faculty and community members could apply for or renew their passports. However, most of the information presented at the event was given by students

of Dr. Khosrowshahi's.

"When they do these assignments, they learn more about America than about other countries; they see the differences," said Dr. Khosrowshahi. "It's not all about Russia, China...Brazil. It is really [about] learning ourselves by learning others."

Dr. Khosrowshahi feels that his event is important not only for students' education while at TJC, but for later in life.

"Look at the news. Education is very important. If you want to have a meaningful democracy, you have to have educated citizens," said Dr. Khosrowshahi. "It's very important to make democracy in the US meaningful and good example for the rest of the world by having knowledgeable citizens."

Sophomore Nelly Prieto, originally from Veracruz, Mexico, decided to present information from her native country.

"I think [International Day] is important. You get to meet a lot of different people and learn about their cultures," said Prieto.

Prieto moved to the US when she was 9 years old, not knowing how to speak English.

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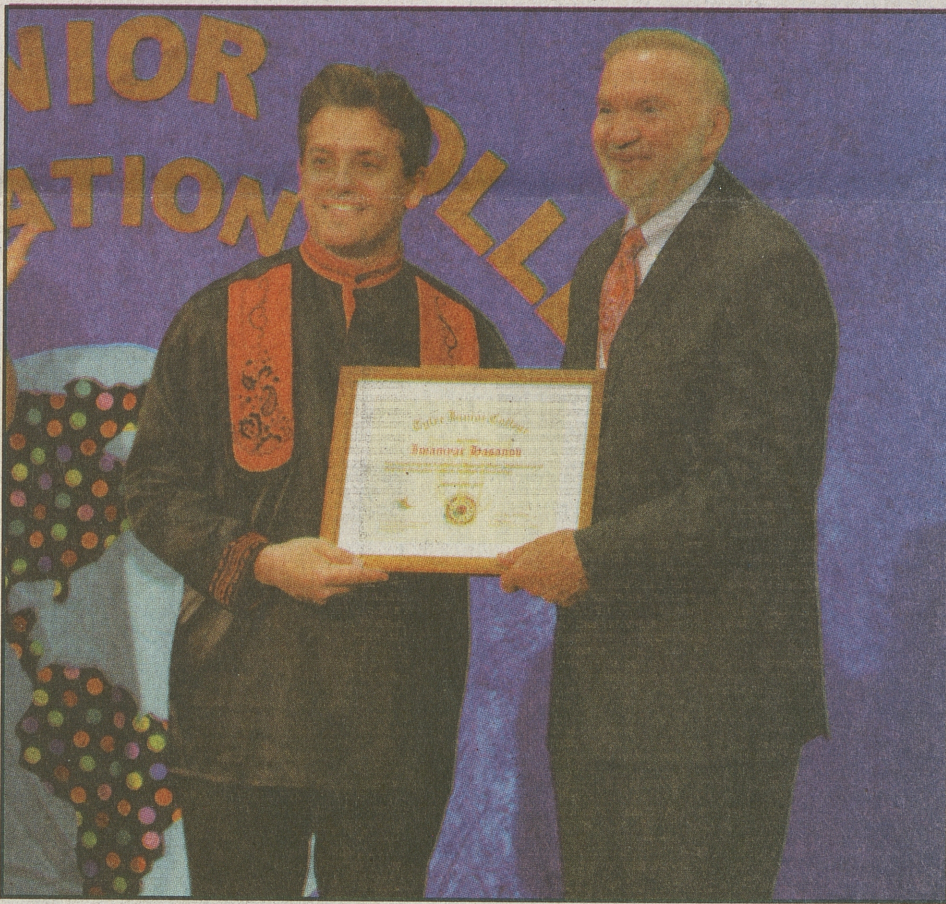


Photo by Rebecca Najera

AROUND THE WORLD IN ONE ROOM Imamyar Hasanov (left) accepted an award from President Mike Metke (right) for his contributions to the event on Tuesday, April 18 in the Apache Rooms. Hasanov performed "Kamanche Performance: skin face spike fiddle."

Clery reports claim low on-campus burglary rate

Rebecca Najera
Editor-in-Chief

Nineteen thefts and two burglaries happened in the dorms during fall of 2015, according to police reports. In the annual Clery report, TJC only reported four burglaries for all of 2015, three of which occurred in dorms.

Colleges and universities that participate in federal financial aid programs are required to update and make information concerning crimes committed on and near the campus accessible to the public. This information must be updated by Oct. 1 of each year.

These requirements are in place due to The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, otherwise known as the Clery Act. The law

was made after college freshman Jeanne Clery was raped and murdered in a residence hall at Lehigh University in 1986. Clery's parents sued the school, claiming that they would not have sent their daughter to the university had they known just how many violent crimes occurred on campus.

TJC's Clery reports can be found on the school's website. In these reports, one can find charts listing crime statistics relating to robbery, aggravated assault, forcible sex offenses, burglaries and more.

After being updated on Oct. 20, 2016, the 2015 statistics state that four burglaries occurred on campus that year, three of which happened in dorms.

"If a dorm room is broken into, if somebody actually forces their way into a room, then that is a burglary," said Executive Director of Student Press Law Center Frank

LaMonte. "If you're there without permission, that's a burglary."

In the fall of 2015, police reports confirmed 19 individual crimes classified as thefts and two burglaries reported to have happened in residence halls around campus.

"Theft is where you take something that doesn't belong to you," said Chief of Police Randy Melton. "Burglary, you got to commit theft to get a burglary, but burglary is you entering somewhere else. Forcible entry, and then you steal something."

According to the Clery Act, "offenses that are classified by local law enforcement agencies as Burglary (any degree); unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or felony;

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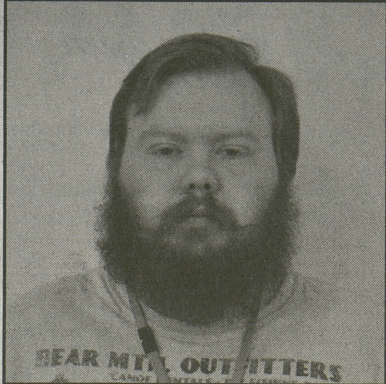
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Guest Column



Tyler Clark
SAFE

Transgender assault is an act of transphobia

Sexual assault is a horrifying and destructive plague on society that stems from toxic masculine desire for power and subjugation which purposefully targets the most vulnerable groups in society. One of the groups most affected by sexual assault is the transgender community. The National Crime Victimization Survey reports that around 21% of trans college students are victims of sexual assault. A 2011 survey by the National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force reports that 12% of trans children were sexually assaulted in school, around 13% of African American trans individuals were sexually assaulted in the workplace and 22% of homeless trans individuals were sexually assaulted in shelters. The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) reported in 2009 that 15% of trans individuals were sexually assaulted in prison (that number jumps to 32% for African American trans individuals). The NCAVP also reported that, in 2009, more than 50% of violent hate crimes against LGBTQ persons that resulted in the victim's death were committed against trans individuals or people who were gender non-conforming, and in such instances it was common for the victim to have suffered sexual assault or genital mutilation prior to death. Why are trans people so heavily targeted by rapists?

The answer is simply systemic transphobia, the societal hatred of trans people. Most incidents of sexual assault against a trans person don't stem from sexual desire, they come from hatred towards the very existence of trans people. When these acts are committed, they send a message to the trans community—that they are not safe, and that people want to hurt them. This issue is especially compounded when race is a factor. According to the National Transgender Discrimination Survey,

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Cartoon by Sean Smith

Editorial

Remember, only “yes” means “yes”

Tyler Junior College is no stranger to the effects of sexual assault, with several cases having taken place over the past few years. The Drumbeat ran a story in Fall 2016 detailing the misreporting of certain cases via Clery Act guidelines. Universities across the nation, like Baylor, have been slammed for mishandling cases and vile treatment of victims. This problem has become very prevalent in our society and one of the reasons Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) exists.

Victim-blaming provides a significant case for an existing ‘rape culture,’ a well-hidden under-current of misogyny and mistrust, and the fact is that only between two and 10 percent of reports are false. Many victims at various universities are discouraged by campus officials from reporting cases, and many are prematurely thrown out on the basis of too little evidence. Worse is the lackluster punishments and sentencing when cases are proven true beyond doubt, especially when it comes to star athletic students.

The Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN) collects data on sexual violence. This data comes from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). There's a bevy of acronyms regarding this subject, but each one represents an important resource in the fight against rape and harassment. According to RAINN, 23.1% of female undergraduate students will experience rape or sexual assault through physical force, violence or incapacitation, as will 5.4% of males. This is a staggering number when you consider the amount of people that

percentage represents. It should be 0 percent. However, this is not a perfect world. For reasons that no one will understand anytime soon, people are sickeningly victimized all the time. Knowledge, compassion and reason are the best tools with which to bite back at the darkness. SAAM encompasses all of these values.

First observed nationally April 1, 2001, but with roots in activism reaching back to the 1970s, SAAM is a time when events are coordinated to provide awareness of the risk and statistics of sexual crimes. The goal is to educate victims and at-risk groups of people, like college students, about resources available to them in regards to prosecuting perpetrators and counseling. TJC will observe SAAM by hosting meetings and events across campus.

It's a tragedy that we face such bestial issues in a modern and technologically advanced society. For all of our hard work, it seems enlightenment yet eludes us. Make no mistake, the men and women who commit acts of stalking, sexual violence or harassment are of the most reprehensible ilk, and rape is a crime on par with murder in its gravity. You can be part of the solution though. Be the change you want to see in the world. So let's start with TJC. On our campus, only “yes” means “yes,” and absolute consent is a necessity for healthy intimacy. For our students who have been victims in the past, you are not alone, and we at The DrumBeat are glad you are here with us today as our peer(s). We hope this campus can become a true bastion of safety and

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What is rape culture in our society?

“A rose by any other name would smell as sweet,” is a famous and frequently referred quote by William Shakespeare. The citation implies that the names we give to things do not necessarily affect what those things really are. Rape, by any other name, would be an action equally as violent. It would, but, opposite to roses, some people reluctant to acknowledge that a rape is a rape.

Rape culture, in context, is the normalization of the act of raping or sexually assaulting due to social perspectives about gender and sexuality. Rape is the non-consensual practice of sex, imposed by threat or violence of any nature. It can also be defined as any form of sexual practice without the consent of one of the parties, involving penetration or not.

If we accept that as the definition of rape, how many of us have already been victims of one? How many have committed one?

Although the practice victimizes men and women, historically, women are more affected (9 out of 10 victims of rape are women.) As a woman, I am constantly told to be careful with every single aspect of my life, and I'm certain I'm not the only one. As women, we are constantly told we should not wear that dress, because it's too short. We're told to carry ourselves a certain way. We're told to never go out alone at night, not to go certain places, not to drink too much, not to dance, not to do a lot of normal things we should be able to. If we do, we're asking for it. That makes me believe that I'm a woman, and I'm constantly asking for it.

I've lost count of how many times a guy has touched me without permission, whether at a party, night club or even at the most common places like a library, the gym and

even a classroom. I've lost count of how many times a guy has addressed me offensively just for the simple fact of having no for an answer. The funny thing is, whenever I would tell a male friend of mine about those situations, they would interrogate me, asking where I was, if I was alone, what I was wearing and a series of other questions that would revert the whole situation to being my own fault.

People who agree with this rape culture and sexism were exposed to them since they were children. Daughters who tolerate sexism learned it from their mothers, who always taught them to fear, to dress “appropriately”, to not go out by themselves and everything us girls heard growing up. Sons who are adept of the rape culture also took it from their parents, who never emphasized the importance of respecting women.

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Live to your standards, not the world's

Everyone wants to feel like they belong. Cultural identity in itself is the sense of belonging to a group through shared language, values and norms. But when you are a part of two different cultures—raised by your family and by American society, the line between who you are and what each side expects you to be can get pretty blurred.

Yellow on the outside, white on the inside. I had been called a twinkie all my life. Sometimes in not so many words, but since I was eight years old I had to learn what it would mean to toe the line between Mexican and American in order to figure out where I fit in. I know I am not alone. Odds are, if you are Hispanic, Black, or of any other multicultural descent, you have been given a hard time for “acting white”, or in some cases, not “acting white” enough.

Being Mexican is a wonderful thing. I love where I come from, the language that was passed down the me, and am so proud to be the oldest first-generation American in my family of immigrants. As much as I love being Mexican however, I also love to read. As a kid I never realized that the two were mutually exclusive, but my Hispanic peers were quick to let me know otherwise. Reading, proper grammar, my love of musicals and my sometimes broken Spanish was enough for them have deemed me white. It seemed that so long as my interests and mannerisms differed from theirs, I was to be shut out from the culture I fervently believed I was a part of. Seventh grade P.E. didn't lend itself to leniency, either. From questions about my skin tone, to being asked if my thick hair was actually a wig, it was clear to me that there was an uncomfortable cultural gap amongst my white friends too. As a lover of both Selena and Tom Hanks, I was at a loss.

Column



Veronica Perez
Staff Writer

Bonding with others that had similar experiences helped, though. I had friends that were called “Oreos”, or black people that “act white”, because they chose theatre, instead of basketball as an elective. They would get into fights on our bus, because some other kid called our white director his real daddy. At the same time, they had to swallow some pride when being called anyone's token “black” friend. Quiet justifications were made in your head around your white friends whenever you were treated as more of a novelty than a person.

In a lot of these instances, people bear no ill-intent. Some of these things are said jokingly, and it may not bother every multicultural person out there. But during the most fundamental parts of my life, I was left feeling really confused and ostracized. What about reading and the arts made me

— see BELONG page 10 —

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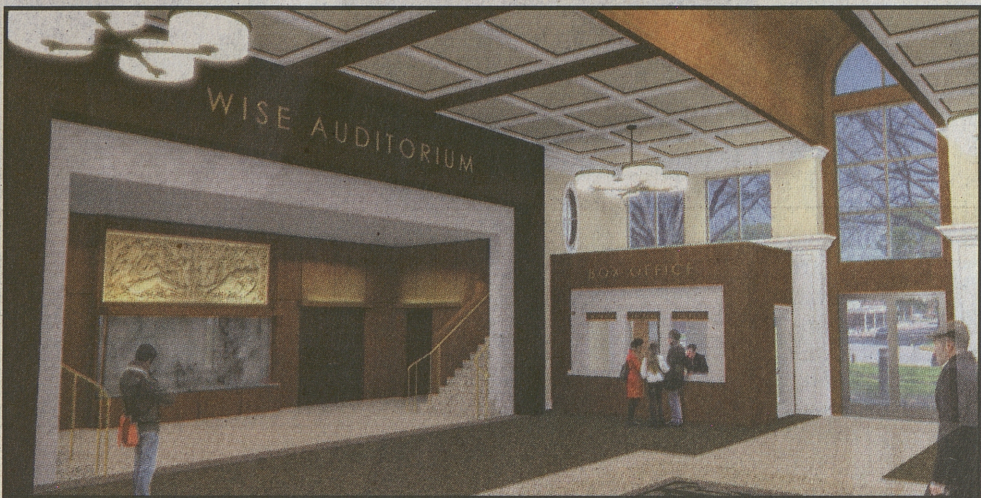
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Courtesy illustrations

BIGGER AND BETTER (top left) The proposed remodel of Wise Auditorium is intended to keep the legacy of TJC architecture while introducing a new look. (bottom left) The new lobby will be able to accomodate much larger crowds. (top right) Plans are underway for dedicated Apache Band and Apache Belles facilities. (bottom left) The courtyard is expected to have engravings that will represent the history between the two programs.

2018 expected to bring campus renovations

Wise Auditorium to receive drastic make-over, Eastern Frontier to honor Band, Belles

Marshall Cearfoss
Managing Editor

Plans are finally underway for TJC's eastern expansion and Wise Auditorium renovations. The latter, as of now, is the closest to materializing.

"We were going to do it in stages, but it looks like it will be far more cost-effective and time-effective to do it in one step," said TJC President Mike Metke.

Wise Auditorium, originally constructed in 1955, will receive a much-needed, approximately \$12 million, redesign potentially as soon as summer of 2018. Dates haven't been finalized yet, as the school is still waiting to gather sufficient donations.

of Institutional Advancement and TJC Foundation Mitch Andrews. "We took that interest and began to develop the project through private support and develop the plan for it to expand ... to really re-envision the facility beyond being an auditorium."

The building will not only receive an entire auditorium make-over, expanded lobby and updated entrance, but gain much greater room for performing arts. The connected courtyard will become a room for dance practices and other forms of art.

"It's becoming a challenge for us to recruit some of the top fine performing arts students because they have better performing arts facilities in their high schools than

with the Tyler Museum of Art. Once underway, construction is expected to last roughly 18 months. Wise will be closed until all renovations are completed.

"We're going to get all new equipment, all new technology for the stage. That would include new lighting, new flyspace," said Andrews. "The square footage of the stage makes it hard for us to do more significant productions and invite in visiting talent. ... We don't have a stage we can get the entire Apache Band on."

The stage, both up front and backstage, will receive a total remodel which will expand the stage and allow more space for casts to perform and prepare.

"I know this from having been in shows there when I was younger," said Andrews. "There's no room backstage to cross from one side of the stage to the other. So, you literally have to go on the outside of Wise, run out into the parking lot to go all the way to the other side of the stage."

said Andrews.

Unlike the Wise construction, which will be primarily paid for by donations but also partly by the school, the new Belles and Band buildings will be entirely donation-funded. The estimated cost for this project is estimated to be around \$8 million. Construction dates for this

"It's a real tough call in the fall when we're at maximum enrollment and we close off some of our parking during primetime," said Metke. "It makes everybody mad. With this new concept, they'll be able to practice right there. This will be very convenient, and it won't impact the rest of the campus."

"It's a real tough call in the fall when we're at maximum enrollment and we close off some of our parking during primetime. It makes everybody mad. With this new concept, they'll be able to practice right there. This will be very convenient, and it won't impact the rest of the campus."

-Mike Metke
TJC President

"There will be a dedicated facility for each program that would be joined by a common area that represents their teamwork over the last 70 years because they're going to celebrate their 70th anniversary."

-Mitch Andrews
Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and TJC Foundation

"It grew, initially, from donor interest. Donors just saw the limitations of Wise Auditorium to serve our performing arts programs at TJC," said Executive Director

we do here at TJC. So we need to address that," said Andrews.

There will also be more space for student art exhibits, along with potential exhibits in conjunction

Plans are also in the works for dedicated Apache Belles and Apache Band facilities where Apache Woodlands used to reside.

"There will be a dedicated facility for each program that would be joined by a common area that represents their teamwork over the last 70 years because they're going to celebrate their 70th anniversary,"

project are also dependent upon the time and amount of donations.

"This one, we're really just now developing, but we've had tremendous response. We revealed the initial plans to alumni that attended the Apache Belles spring show," said Andrews.

Currently, both programs have to practice in small, old locations. The Apache Band commandeers a large parking lot in the fall to practice, which makes parking even more troublesome.

The new facilities will only take up a small part of roughly 30 acres of land TJC has been acquiring for several years. The rest of the land is planned to be fields for baseball, softball, soccer and other intramural sports. Softball, for example, will finally have a home field.

"Our softball team has done amazing things, but they've never had a home game," said Metke.

For more information on how to donate, contact Mitch Andrews at 903 510 2034 or mand@tjc.edu.

White supremacy flyers on campus could lead to charges

Rebecca Najera
Editor-in-Chief

Campus Police is looking for the individuals responsible for distributing white supremacy propaganda around campus over the Easter weekend.

Flyers and business cards were placed around campus, including around the Wise Cultural Arts area and Vaughn Library after the campus closed Thursday, April 14. The propaganda was found Sunday, April 16 and taken down before classes resumed the following morning. However, a few small cards were missed outside of Vaughn Library. Psychology professor, Cory Howard, found them taped outside the Starbucks window later that afternoon.

"It caught my eye. I was like, there's no way that that's actually what it says. There's no way that that's really what it is," said Howard.

The cards celebrated white culture, encouraged young mothers to be "selective" and claimed that America has fallen to its knees by decadence. Websites were listed on the cards, taking the visitor to their site to join the group, their twitter page where they promoted making "America white again" and other social media accounts. Pictures

were taken at both TJC and UT Tyler and were uploaded online. The members photographed had their faces blurred.

Howard took the cards down and turned them into Learning Resource Center Director Marian Jackson. Jackson had found other flyers and cards that morning.

"It wasn't taped in the building at all. There were some of the cards that were poked through the door, laying in the airlock," said Jackson. "They didn't have the approved college student of activities implement."

In order to distribute flyers and have them posted on bulletin boards around campus, they must first be approved by the Center for Student Life and Involvement or the marketing office.

"We have posting regulations on campus; they're in the student handbook to ensure that everything is obviously within the rights and responsibilities and policies of the college," said Director of Student Life, Lauren Tyler. "Not to say that organizations don't take it



Courtesy Photo

RACIALLY-FUELED Fliers promoting white supremacy were found throughout campus on Monday, April 17.

upon themselves to post things on campus. We can't necessarily stop a student from going and taping things on [bulletin boards] but you know that's why we have those regulations in place. We do have freedom of speech areas, but we don't necessarily have a freedom of speech poster or bulletin board area."

Jackson turned the items over to Chief of Police Randy Melton, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Tom Johnson and Executive Director of Marketing, Media and Communications Kimberly Lessner.

"We're gonna find who's responsible,"

said Melton. "If they're [a] student, you got the student code of conduct type charges. If they do not belong to our campus, they're trespassing the property."

While some people may feel threatened by the group's presence, Melton feels differently.

"I don't call it a threat," said Melton. "Somebody just wants to express their view. A very unwelcome view on our campus."

Campus Police are currently reviewing security camera footage to determine the suspects.

"Knowing that there's white supremacist groups in Tyler is upsetting, but the fact that they're coming to where I work and where a lot of students are, a lot of young impressionable minds are, is really upsetting. Especially here at TJC, we have a very diverse student population," said Howard. "You don't expect it to be here, but it definitely is. This isn't the first white supremacist propaganda that's popped up around Tyler. Apparently there's multiple groups here, which is also upsetting."

Anyone with information concerning the incident should contact Campus Police. If wishing to remain anonymous, text 50911, enter tjctip, a space and then the message.

Apache Tennis shines at Southwest JUCO tourney

No. 1 Men's and Women's tennis leave Plano with several victories

Benjamin Savallo
Sports Editor

Men's and Women's Apache Tennis have entered the postseason ranked No. 1 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association and have begun playoffs with a strong start. After traveling to Plano, TX for the 2017 Southwest JUCO tournament on April 14-15, the women's team came away with a clean sweep in all events and the men were two events from a perfect weekend.

"I think we'll have a lot of enemies this year," said freshman tennis player Jorge Martinez. "Maybe we'll be playing in Nationals in Plano against three teams, they're going to be together screaming and saying everything to us because we're undefeated. ... If we lose, they're going to be happy."

Martinez was one of the many TJC athletes that placed first in

their flight or their specific round. This tournament comprised of eight different flights for singles and then four other flights for doubles on both the men's and women's side.

No. 1 ranked JUCO tennis player in the nation Ferran Calvo started out the day for the Apaches with a win over his opponent Andres Graterol. For women's, the freshman out of England Jasmine Asghar began with a victory over Alex Gilbert. Kolani Soli and Jorge Martinez both got the victories in flight two for TJC followed by victories by Enrique Pardo and Montana Moore in flight three.

In flight four for women's, Oceane Garibel came away with the win while her counterpart, Reid Feehan, took the victory for men's in flight four.

"It's pressure and stress every single match, every single day, every single match. There's always

that pressure to win and my confidence is okay but I need to work on a lot," said Garibel on her confidence heading into Plano.

For flights five through eight in the women's division, TJC added four more victories from Yuna Ito, Elena Tendo, Mekeila Erspramer and Michelle Walker. As for the men's division, TJC received four more victories as well from Rahul Manoa, Philip Franken, Drew Brown and Adolfo Arroyo to end the day for the singles.

On the second day, the men's doubles were highlighted by Ferran Calvo and Enrique Pardo who ran away with the flight one men's double competition. In flight two, Alejandro Hayen and Jorge Martinez took first and in flight three, Chris Anders and Aaron Westerlund placed second while Reid Feehan and Philip Franken took first in flight four.

For the women's doubles Jasmine Asghar and Yuna Ito placed first in flight one, Montana Moore and Kolani Soli placed first in flight two, Oceane Garibel and Michelle Walker got first in flight three while Mekeila Erspramer and Elena Tendo took first in flight four.

Also, on the second day to finish the women's singles competitions, all of TJC's ladies placed first in each of their flights

after all of them went a perfect three for three on the weekend.

In flight one for men's, Ferran Calvo couldn't get it done against the No. 3 ranked JUCO tennis player in the nation and dropped his second game of the tournament to Carlos Anez who went on to place first in their flight. The rest

of the men's tennis team placed first in all seven of their respective flights only losing that one match to Anez.

TJC now looks towards Laredo, TX for the 2017 Region XIV Championships on April 21-22 with hopes of more of the same from Plano.

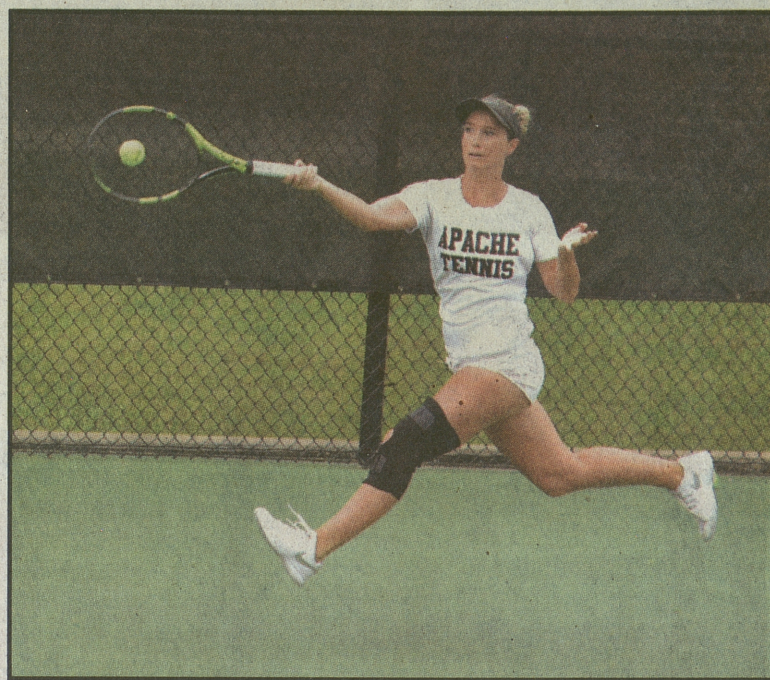


Photo by Benjamin Savallo

SPRING OVER Freshman Women's Tennis player Mekeila Erspramer hurdles across the court to make an athletic play to keep the ball in play during practice before the Southwest tourney on April 11, 2017.

"It's pressure and stress every single match, every single day, every single match."

-Oceane Garibel
Freshman Tennis Player

Long-time rivals on the court, long-time friends off the court

Andres Jaimes
Staff Writer

In sports, rivalries can create great friendships. Take Larry Bird and Magic Johnson in basketball for example or Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi in soccer. Here at TJC, there is Ferran Calvo and Jorge Martinez on the tennis team.

Calvo and Martinez are two Spanish tennis players pursuing an education while having fun playing tennis. They are the two best players in the nation according to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association.

"Having the #1 and the #2 of the country, for Ferran and I, it lets us know and feel that the future of this team is very bright," said Martinez.

Calvo and Martinez as a team now makes perfect sense and brings a lot of talent to the Apaches, but these two players never thought about actually being on the same team.

"I knew that if he [Calvo] was in the United States and I went there, we were going to see each other," said Martinez.

"The moment we found out we could play together in the same team, it was a no doubter," added Calvo.

"Knowing that Ferran was here and me joining him would make us a great team with chances to win," replied Martinez.

On the court they're rivals but off the court they act as brothers.

"First, I would call this a friendship" said Calvo, "Thanks to tennis, I've always had a great relationship with him and the first thing I got from him was a friendship, and then obviously, rivalry will always be there when you go to compete against any player even though he's your friend."



Photo by Benjamin Savallo

FOREHAND Jorge Martinez practices his forehand on April 11 before him and his team take the road to Plano on April 14.

"When we were younger and we traveled through Europe. Ferran and I were those that hanged out outside of the tennis court. We never had a problem," said Martinez. "There is always going to be rivalry inside the tennis courts because everyone wants to win and give everything, but we both know that tennis is tennis and at the end of the day, it's just a match."

With practices every day for almost 3 hours and several tennis matches during the weekend, both Calvo and Martinez have proven that tennis is what they do best. They also spend countless hours studying opponents before a match in order for them to feel ready to win.

"I say putting a lot of effort and passion at the practices, have fun while playing and work hard," said Calvo on how to be the best.

Martinez had quite a similar formula

— see **TENNIS** page 5 —

Kelly Madrones signs with Austin Peay State University

Benjamin Savallo
Sports Editor

On Thursday, April 13, the sophomore pitcher from Sanger, TX Kelly Madrones, signed her letter of intent to Austin Peay State University.



Photo by Benjamin Savallo

SIGNING UP Sophomore Ace Pitcher Kelly Madrones signs the dotted line for Austin Peay on Thursday, April 13

"It takes a lot of hard work to be able to come from a JUCO (junior college) and move onto a [university] so I'm pretty proud of that," said Madrones.

Madrones transferred to Tyler Junior College after her time at Creighton University last season, making Austin Peay her third stop at the college level.

"I am a little nervous because it's like my third time starting over again and like I said, it'll be sad to leave my team and stuff but I'm excited," said the ace pitcher. "I'm pretty optimistic about next year."

Since the sophomore began at TJC,

she has become the number one pitcher on the team; leading in strikeouts (111), wins (24) and earned run average (2.14).

"It's really helped me a lot because I've gotten playing time at the college level and I feel like I've developed a lot as a pitcher in this past year," said Madrones on her time at TJC.

The right-handed pitcher also considered West Texas A&M along with Austin Peay State.

"I really like the coaches and the school and it just seemed like a good fit for me where I know I can get playing time," said Madrones explaining why she chose Austin Peay.

Madrones helped lead the Apaches to an overall record of 40-13 with 32 appearances; started 28 games, closed 11 and saved one. Kelly acquired only three losses out of all 32 games played and is tied for fourth-most wins in the nation with 24.

TJC battled their way up to the number nine spot in the national rankings as a team on the first national poll of April, but has since been dropped from the polls.

— see **KELLY** page 5 —

"It takes a lot of hard work to be able to come from a JUCO and move onto a [university] so I'm pretty proud of that."

-Kelly Madrones
Starting Pitcher

When will more Apache Athletic programs call TJC home?

For years TJC sports have been dominating each of their respective fields (or courts) of play. TJC is looked upon as a great place to start an athlete's career not just athletically but educationally as well. TJC is a beautiful and growing campus, there's more buildings that appear each year providing more classrooms and more residence halls. But how long before these expansions reach the athletic program?

The softball program was formed just three years ago and have since become quite the contender for the national title in their own right. Last season under former Head Coach Nicole Dickson, the softball team fought their way to the championship game with multiple freshmen on the team and would've lost only four sophomores had Dickson stayed. This season, their overall record of 37-13 is a dip from last season's of 60-6. But maybe an actual home field advantage would be able to help with

this, instead this team travels to Bullard for home games and drives across the city of Tyler to find a place to practice.

The baseball team has more than proved themselves worthy of a home here at TJC. The currently ranked No. 3 Apache baseball team, just coming off of their third-straight National Championship, are looking to remain on top of the nation and defend their title again for a fourth-straight year. But still they have to drive across the city of Tyler just to practice or play a game at their home stadium, Mike Carter Field that is shared among many different teams and schools.

The football team, who is somewhat in the same boat as these teams, has to travel to the west side of Tyler to play their games at Tyler Rose Stadium that is shared by multiple schools. But unlike the baseball and softball team, the football team has a practice field and training

facility on campus in the form of the Pat Hartley Field Complex.

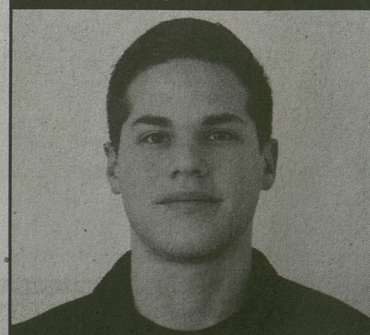
What I'm getting at here is we have these programs on campus that we haven't provided facilities for, for quite some time. How long before we have a practice field for the softball team or a stadium for the baseball team?

I know TJC has been in talks about making these facilities available to the campus with their purchase of land made within the last year or so but imagine how much more of a show-out the teams would receive from the students just because the home games would be within walking distance from the residence halls. Both basketball teams attract quite a large attendance during home games against big rivals as well as does the volleyball team just because their home court is on campus grounds.

Although these decisions may not

come easy or anytime soon, or the plans may already be in progress for these facilities, I do believe it would be money and time well spent and would be well deserved for each of these athletic programs.

Column



Benjamin Savallo
Sports Editor

BASEBALL

continued from page 1

next four series that they played with very limited days off in between each series.

"We have the toughest schedule in division three baseball. We've played three ranked division-two teams, we've faced several ranked division-one teams, we face the best junior college team in the country here in about three weeks. There's no tougher schedule in division-three baseball than we have," said Wren.

The Apaches won both games 10-0 in the two-game series against Houston Community College at home to start the month of April and to improve their record to 23-9. Both games were closed out by TJC in the sixth inning with the help of the 10-run rule. To continue their tight, tough schedule the Apaches went on the road and beat Angelina College 10-6 in a close game.

TJC came back home later that week to face the No. 3 ranked team in Division II, LSU-Eunice in a three-game series. LSU took home the first game of the series to put a halt to TJC's winning streak and hand them their 10th loss of the season. The Apaches would take the second game to even up the series at a game apiece but couldn't hang on late in the final game of the series and lost 5-1.

"LSU-Eunice is one of the best teams we play every year, regardless of division-one, division-two, division-three. They are better than most division-ones that we play," said Wren. "We had a chance to win that last



Photo by Benjamin Savallo

TURN TWO Shortstop Jarrod Wells turns the double play against TCS Post Grad Academy on Friday, April 14.

game we played against them, I know the score was 5-1 but that was a 2-1 ball game for most of it... they just got more timely hits than we did. And sometimes in baseball that's what it comes down to."

Three days later, TJC hit the road again and dropped two more games against Weatherford College. This led to the Apaches dropping the last four of five games in one week.

"The problem last night with Weatherford is we had no pitching left," said Coach Wren. "We still hit the ball really well, we out-hit them in both games and again yesterday we left 22 [runners] on base. It just kind of came down to -- we didn't execute."

With such a close-knit schedule for the No. 3 team in the nation, TJC has faced a struggle trying to keep pitchers fresh and

rested in between series and games. This may have been the deciding factor for a lot of the losses this season.

"We call it just 'flushing it' and moving on. That's important in the game of baseball and particularly right now..."

-Adam Savage
Co-Host, Mythbusters

"I think our offense has slightly fell off a little bit, but it's a long season, it's to be expected some," said Kuykendall. "Yesterday, we went to Weatherford and we didn't have our pitching all that well. It happens, we'll bounce back from it."

Kuykendall hasn't had any doubt that his team will be able to bounce and neither does Coach Wren.

"I think maybe for the average viewer, dropping four out of five looks like something pretty scary but I think if you look over the course of the week, we played some pretty good baseball and we played two really good teams," said Wren.

Another skill this team has been able to master is the skill of short memory. Playing back-to-back games

repetitively, not every game, nor play or even pitch is going to go "your way" so to speak. In order to bounce back from these, a player or the whole team needs to be able to forget the last play or pitch and move on to the next one.

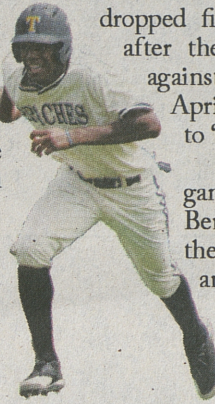
"We call it just 'flushing it' and moving on. That's important in the game of baseball and particularly right now with some of the losses that we've endured," said Coach Wren.

Kuykendall agreed with the head coach that, in order to keep the right mentality, a short memory is in order with every pitch.

"Even as a pitcher, if I get a bad call then I got to flush it right then and there," said Kuykendall.

This is what Kuykendall and the team as whole will need to do now that their first conference series against Coastal Bend is here. With the Apaches now having dropped five of the last seven games, after they split their double-header against TCS Post Grad Academy on April 14, now would be the time to 'flush' them out and move on.

TJC will finish their four-game series against Coastal Bend on April 22 at home and then head out to Louisiana for another three-game series against LSU-Eunice on April 28-29.



TENNIS

continued from page 4

on becoming one of the best.

"For those that want to be where I am, I tell them to enjoy tennis, especially enjoy playing it because when you start playing at a higher level it's the first thing to forget," said Martinez. "Enjoy tennis and play. Play without the pressure of knowing you have to win at all times and practice every day like it was the last day."

Calvo and Martinez have been playing each other since their time in Spain. Martinez won the first match, only for Calvo to catch up to him in a match in Barcelona. At TJC they have faced each other two different times, once in Regionals, which Calvo came up with the victory, and lastly in Nationals, in which Martinez took the gold.

Last semester they teamed up to play doubles and represent the Apaches, but winning a silver medal in the National Championship was a surprise for them. Knowing each other and their style of play made them feel comfortable playing together.

"We were really calm knowing our styles of play. We've also known each

other for a while now and that just made it easier. We knew that if we did things right, we were not supposed to lose against any team," said Martinez. "We were champions in individual matches, and we had already won regionals as a team, it was an unexpected loss."

For Spring 2017, Calvo and Martinez will not be playing by together. Coach Dash Connell has decided to pair up Calvo with fellow Spanish player, sophomore Enrique Pardo, and let Martinez team up with freshman, Alejandro Hayen from Mexico.

In the fall, Calvo will be attending the University of Oklahoma next year, while Martinez plays his sophomore year in Tyler Junior College. The two don't deny the fact that they would like to play each other again in Division I of the NCAA and also they wouldn't mind playing on the same team one more time.

"I would love to play him [Calvo] in the finals in Division I, maybe in a final or an important game, or who knows. Maybe we play for the same team, who knows, it's impossible to tell," said Martinez.

KELLY

continued from page 4

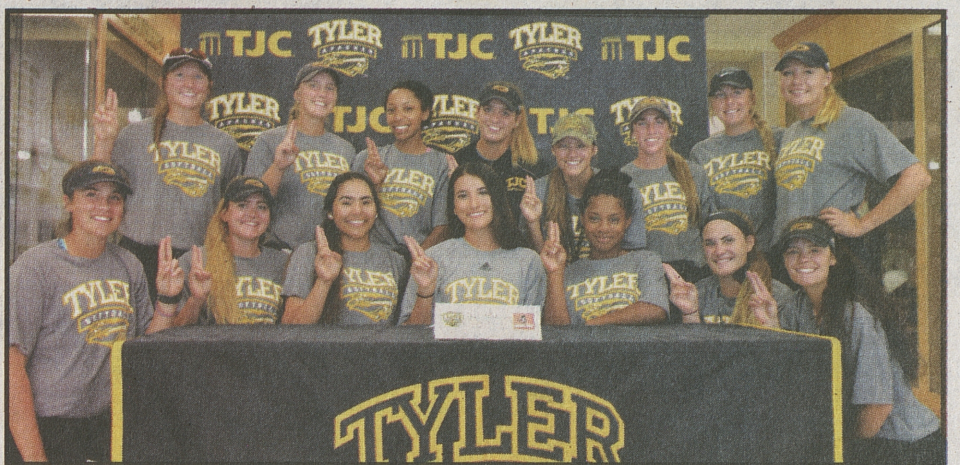


Photo by Benjamin Savallo

ALL IN The 2016-2017 TJC Apache softball team poses in support of their sophomore ace on the mound, pitcher Kelly Madrones on her signing day on Thursday, April 13.

But just like the rest of the softball team, Madrones is looking toward the future and what she can bring to the pitching rotation at Austin Peay.

"Consistency in the circle (pitching lineup). Someone they can depend on and get wins for them," said Madrones.

TJC will look to continue their success with two more double-headers against Navarro College. The two teams will meet in Corsicana for the first of the two on April 22, and then again in Bullard at the Brooke Hill School on the 26 to finish the regular season.

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Thunderdome returns to Arts Festival

Intense event brings excitement and adrenaline to the arts

Brianna Harmon
Arts Editor

Thunderdome, an art competition that many pieces are entered in knowing only one will make it out in one piece.

Thunderdome originated from an idea from professor Paul Jones and Art Department chair Derrick White while at lunch when discussing why the arts aren't as popular as sports.

"We were discussing how the arts typically don't get the attention as a athletic team," said White. "Part of the reason we conclude is that some of the arts don't offer the adrenaline rush that you get from watching a sporting

event or a competition. So we came up with an art competition where the losing pieces got destroyed."

Any medium can be enter, but the only catch to the competition is that all of the pieces entered have to be one of a kind and can not be reproduced.

White says that the reason for making the competition this way is so that it teaches the artist to not get connected to their pieces.

"It really teaches a valuable lesson," said White. "As an artist, after you have created something, you have to detach yourself from it to some extent. If you are going to be a professional artist you can't keep everything you

"As an artist, after you have created something, you have to detach yourself from it to some extent."

-Derrick White
Art Department Chair

make. You would end up filling up your garage and house with all the stuff. I encourage people to detach their self emotionally so that they can let it go. It takes the preciousness away from art and I think that's very healthy for an artist to go through that process so that later in life they can sell their work. It also gives them an incentive to make more work."

The competition is set up so that one piece will go up against another in a series of rounds. White will pick three random people from the crowd to be the judges for a couple rounds and see who moves on to the next round. The piece that doesn't advance will then be destroyed by

— see THUNDER page 7 —



Courtesy Photo

TWO-YEAR WINNER Sophomore Bryan Diego holds his Thunderdome winning piece outside of Vaughn Library April of 2015. Diego's art has survived both the 2015 and 2016 Thunderdome.

New Bell Tower hits the stands, artists recognized

Brianna Harmon
Arts Editor

The Bell Tower Arts Journal Release party gathered a vast variety of people to celebrate the newest issue being released.

"It's been a long process but it's been worth the wait," said Art Department Chair Derrick White. "These students were excited to be accepted into the Bell Tower, now they get to see it. It just keeps getting better,"

Three awards were given out to students for their work that was featured in the journal.

Willow Lanchester won the award for best art in the journal, she had two pieces that made the journal. The first being a charcoal self-portrait, the other an acrylic painting of a moth.

Aji Fatou Sakho won an award for best literary, she had three pieces that made the journal. The three pieces those being "Afrique," "International" and "The Whisperer" (Alwaswaasu).

"It's been a long process but it's been worth the wait."

-Derrick White
Art Department Chair

And lastly Cortny Handorf won the photography award. Handorf also had three pieces that made it into the journal, those pieces being "Blissful," "Eye of the Beholder"

and "Just Cat'n Around."

The first ever three-dimensional art piece was placed in this year's journal. Tact-Eagle was created by Art Major Matthew Hopkins, the piece is a made of cardboard and paint.

"This is the first sculpture I have ever really done," said Hopkins. "Mr. Dunlap, my professor, pushed me to hone in. I figured if

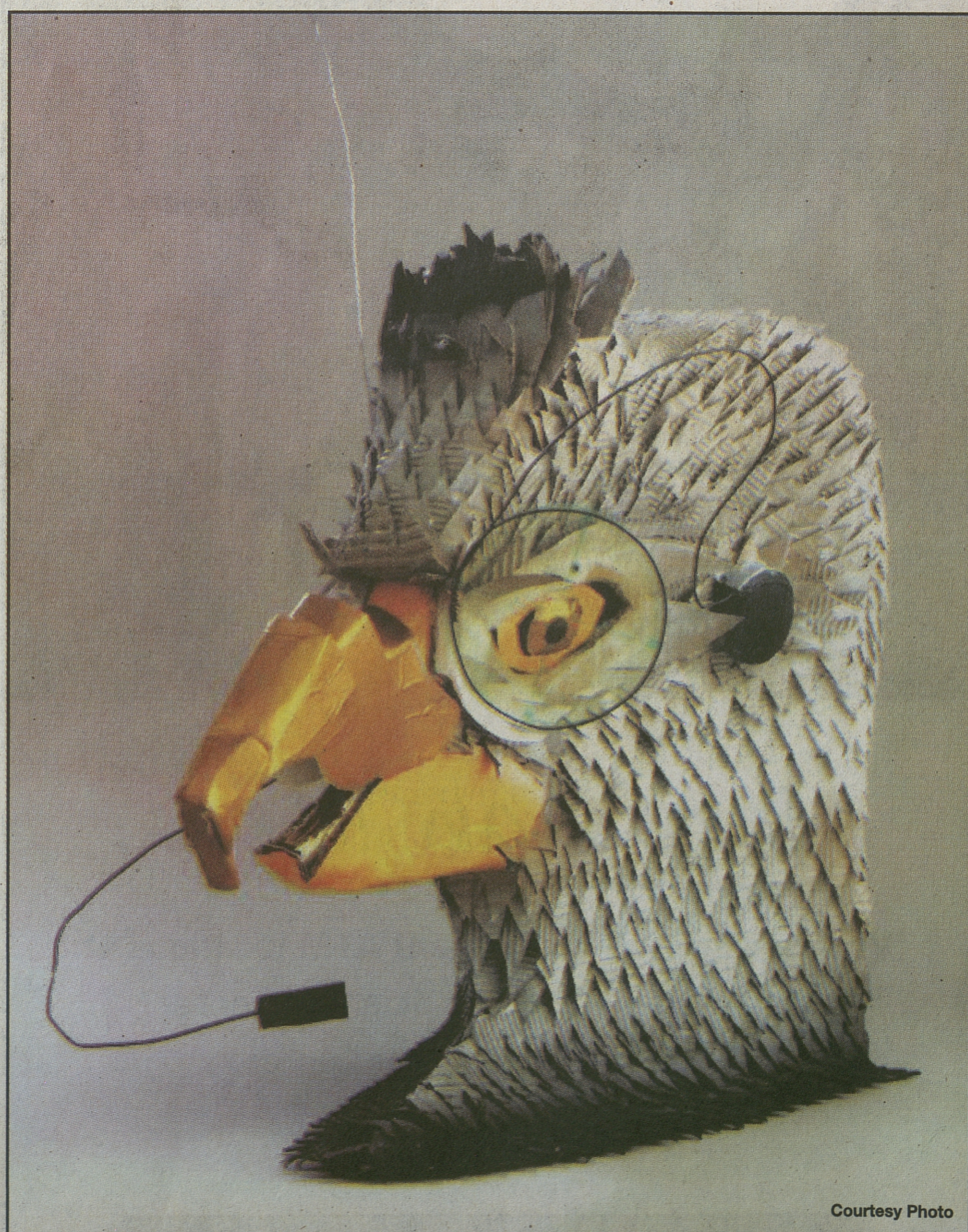
"Other than the newspaper, I have never had anything published. It's really awesome to take that first step."

-Lenora Hill
TJC Alumnus

an Eagle had an eye piece, it could see that much better. It wasn't anything profound. I really didn't want to cut each and every feather, but I did and because of that, I think that's why it came out as good as it did because he wouldn't let me stop at good enough; he wanted me to do better."

White hopes to see more three-dimensional pieces in the Bell Tower in years to come now that there is access to the equipment to take photos of the work.

"We have collaborated with the visual communications department in shooting some of the 3-D art work," said White "I would like to see in the future more ceramic



Courtesy Photo

TACT-EAGLE Art major Matthew Hopkins created the cardboard sculpture Tact-Eagle for his class with Professor Chance Dunlap. Tact-Eagle is the first three-dimensional sculpture to be placed into the Bell Tower Arts Journal.

— see BELL TOWER page 7 —

Kimlicko helps bring flare to the coffee house program

Veronica Perez
Staff Writer

One sharp strike against a music stand and a flick of a wrist sends sounds of strings thrumming into a second-floor classroom of Jean Brown Theater. Foreheads crinkle in concentration, but never look down at their hands. The students are entrusting director Franklin Kimlicko as he leads his guitarists through each bold note of the nine Latin pieces they are rehearsing for the Tyler Museum of Art's coffee house program.

Balance between the feel of the music and the diligence of technique is something Kimlicko embodied as he broke into a small samba to the Latin guitar. With a wave of his hand, he easily corrected a misplaced note of his students. Live music means being in the moment, and thinking on one's feet was part of it.

"It will happen now and then. Something doesn't go quite right and you have to adjust immediately. Immediately, so that that magic moment is not lost for the audience. Because once you start, hopefully we have this thing called 'suspension of disbelief,' and that will be the sweet spot, right? When they're truly into it," Kimlicko said.

The first song of the rehearsal ended and the room was met with the dull groans of tuners being twisted as the students adjusted their instruments. Jacob Mills sat in the second chair preparing for his part.

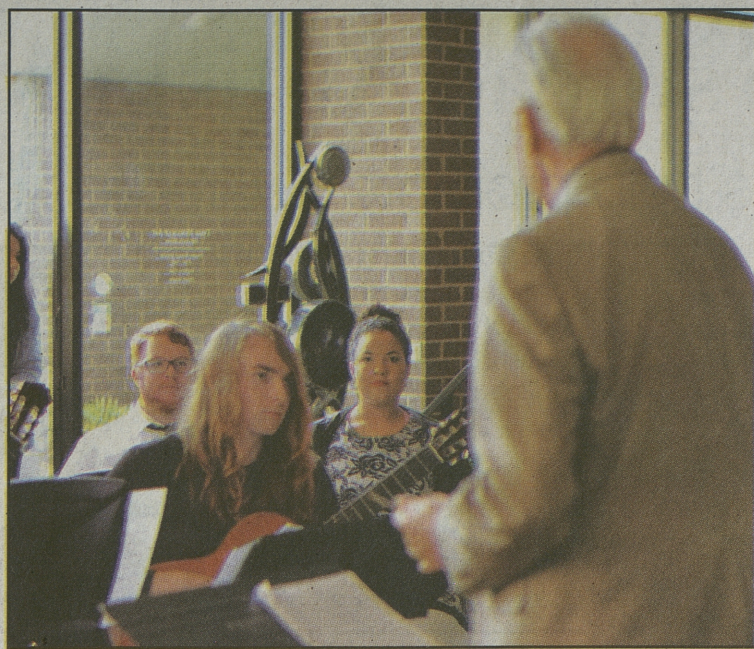


Photo by Barbara Arroio

FINDING THE BEAT Musicians await the direction of their director, Franklin Kimlicko, before their performance of the nine Latin pieces for the Tyler Museum of Art's coffee house program on April 5.

His professor raised his baton, and Mills flew into his solo. His fingers moved deftly through the strings. This was exactly where Mills needed to be. Behind the guitar, there was a sanctuary that shielded him from the doubters, his detractors, people in his life that badgered him daily to fall into majors he didn't love. Not the way he loved this. The rhythm of his life only ever felt in sync when he was tapping his foot, keeping time.

"As a musician, we're told

"It will happen now and then. Something doesn't go quite right and you have to adjust immediately."

-Franklin Kimlicko
Director

stuff like, 'Your degree is not worth anything. How are you ever going to find a job?' But, I can't really imagine myself doing anything else without being completely miserable. So it's this or nothing at all, really," Mills said.

Two days later, crowds filled the space, young and old alike. The lobby of the Tyler Museum of Art was adorned with yellow-clothed tables and gold-colored guitar centerpieces. Pastries and frosted fruits sat on silver platters and the size of the crowd swelled with time and anticipation. Tall and proud, dressed to the nines in a pale, gray suit, Kimlicko called for the crowd's attention with an introduction to the

— see MUSIC page 10 —

THUNDER

continued from page 6

annihilators.

"Anyone that wants to participate signs in then we randomly draw numbers for one piece to compete against another, then I go around and pick three members of the crowd preferably not from our department but just onlookers," said White. "They just trust their gut, they go with the one they like the best and holds their visual attention more and that one advances to the next round while the other one is destroyed lavishly."

Art student Shannon Rooney is one of the annihilators for the competition.

"I'm a dancer. I put on a performance while we are waiting for the votes to come in," said Rooney. "I also destroy some of the pieces. You get to use all kind of tools. I have a baseball bat that I bought specifically for Thunderdome."

Rooney says that there is a rush getting to destroy the art work that doesn't make it to the next round.

"There is a rush, knowing that the future of this piece is in the hands of people you don't even know," said Rooney. "You get to just utterly destroy it, there is nothing like it."

Rooney was diagnosed with autism and feels that learning to let go and helping others learn to let go is important.

"I feel that Thunderdome betters people as artist," said Rooney. "I view each piece as a sacrifice to some personal deity that someone might have whether it is what they are going through at the time. Everyone has a God and a demon in them whether it is a literal God or demon, sacrificing their work to it helps them to overcome that anxiety and that lack of control that they have. I like to share that with people, competing in Thunderdome will make you stronger and it will help you let go."

The winner at the end of the competition will receive \$250 cash and will get to keep their art piece in tact.

One they receive the money, they will then have the opportunity to double the cash prize that they take home.

"I have four envelopes out there on a table, three of the options say 'double' and one says 'destroy,'" said White. "If they choose that option they get to pick one of the four options. If they pick an envelope that says 'double,' they will get \$500 cash and to keep their art in tact and walk away. If they choose the one envelope that says 'destroy,' then they have to give their \$250 back and they have to destroy their own piece."

"We get pumped for it and look forward to it and I hope the rest of the campus does too."

-Derrick White
Art Department Chair

White says that representational work usually does better in the competition than other mediums.

"Representational work usually does better just as a general rule," said White. "I love ceramics, but for some reason ceramics doesn't stand a chance because people love to see ceramics break. We have had some great ceramic pieces be entered but the crowd takes over with a mob mentality almost chanting what they want to advance and what they want to seed destroyed."

Thunderdome will take place on April 26, the last Wednesday of April.

"It's kind of an end of the semester stress reliever," said White. "We try to make it as crazy of a show as possible while keeping everyone safe. We have been talking about it for months. We get pumped for it and look forward to it and I hope the rest of the campus does too."

BELL TOWER

continued from page 6

pieces and more sculpture pieces in the Bell Tower."

Alumnus Lenora Hill had her acrylic painting "Mozart" featured. Hill was excited to learn that her work was being published.

"Other than the newspaper, I have never had anything published," said Hill. "It's really awesome to take that first step.

As an artist, you submit to a lot of things and you get more rejected more so than accepted, so it was really cool to get that email that my work had been selected."

Submissions for the 2017 Bell Tower are already open, the submission deadline is Nov. 9. Submissions can be turned in to the Humanities, Communications and Fine Arts Office in Jenkins.



Photo by Barbara Arroio

BEAUTIFUL SOUNDS Guitar ensemble performs under Kimlicko's leadership on April 5 at the TMA.



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OTA students help spread Autism Awareness

Occupational Therapy students help promote awareness across campus

Rebecca Najera
Editor-in-Chief

An eight-year-old child clings to his mother's arm as they walk through the grocery store. People smile at him as they pass him, but the child doesn't return the gesture. He blankly stares back, not phased by the friendly smiles, still clinging tightly to his mother. As they make their way through the store, he starts to babble to himself, a few audible words such as "mom" and "hungry" escaping his lips. This is example behavior of a child that has autism.

Autism is a mental condition that makes it difficult for people to communicate and form relationships with others using language and other concepts, such as body language. Because the month of April is Autism Awareness Month, the occupational therapy program decided to help educate students on what autism is and what services they help provide for those that have it by setting up an information table earlier this month.

"Autism awareness is such a big deal because everyone pretty much knows someone with autism, but they're not sure what it is, or how they can help or how much of an impact autism has on our community in general," said first year OTA student, Claire Boudreaux. "Everyone kinda knows what autism is, but they don't really know that we need to be advocating for these people so that they can get the services they need."

Boudreaux decided to join the occupational therapy program because her brother has cerebral palsy, a condition that affects muscle coordination. Being a part of this profession means that she'll not only work with people with autism, but people with cerebral palsy like her brother.

"Occupational therapy is an allied health profession, meaning we are not directly involved with the medical side of care. We don't do medications... we work with people who have some kind of primary medical condition," said Occupational Therapy Assistant

Department Chair, Elizabeth Olivier. "So there is something affecting their health and well-being that is also affecting their ability to do things that other people do day in and day out. Specifically in OT, what we are interested in are the tasks and the activities that people need to do day to day."

Focusing on a specific person's needs is important for occupational therapist, especially because no two individuals with autism function the same way.

"Autism now is considered a disorder that is on a spectrum from mild to severe, where people with mild forms are highly functional in day-to-day life. They go to college, they hold jobs, they get married, they raise families," said Olivier. "People on the more severe end have difficulty communicating and doing some of the basic daily things."

Freshman Daniel Lutmer, a student that has autism, appreciates the OT program spreading awareness.

"Without these services, I don't know where I'd be today. I doubt I would have even graduated high school," said Lutmer. "Whenever I was in elementary school, I was able to actually be in regular classes with everyone else versus without those services, I would have been in special-ed all throughout my years."

Lutmer feels that the services provided to him prior to college has made an impact on his life.

"It's not like I get any special advantages or disadvantages. I'm just taking some classes; everybody treats me the same," said Lutmer.

Lutmer encourages people with autism to stay positive.

"Probably the only advice I could think of would be keep pushing on, keep working hard and the rest will take care of itself," said Lutmer.

The number of people being diagnosed with autism continues to increase.

"We're finding that there are actually more and more people than we realize who have these social problems,



Photo by Rebecca Najera

FIRST STEP TO CHANGE IS AWARENESS First year occupational therapy student Claire Boudreaux explains what autism is to sophomore Dezhana Johnson outside of Rogers Student Center Thursday, April 13,

communication problems, these sensory processing problems, and they think it's just them," said Olivier.

"Individuals with autism really want to have friends and they want to do the social things that everybody else does."

-Elizabeth Olivier
Occupational Therapy Assistant Department Chair

"They think there's something wrong with them and they don't know what it is. Or other people think there's something wrong with them, but don't know what it is."

Because autism is on a spectrum, what someone might see as someone acting odd or standoffish may just be a sign that the person acting odd may have some level of autism. It can be difficult for someone with autism to pick up on different social cues such as body language and sarcasm. Becoming educated on signs

of autism can help ease these social situations for the individuals involved. Some signs to look for may be: anxiety, little to no social skills or the aversion of eye contact. If the autism is a little more severe, one might notice that person having some obsessive interest, or repetitive behaviors or the urge to line objects up. Olivier encourages students that may have autism to not be afraid to talk to teachers and be open about their needs are when it comes to learning.

"Individuals with autism really want to have friends and they want to do the social things that everybody else does," said Olivier. "Sometimes the people that [you] see that [you] may think are unfriendly...or unusual, there's a desire there to be friends, and they just have a difficult time reaching out. Maybe when approached by someone whose communication style is a little different consider that maybe that's the problem. There just not really sure how to do it."

For more information about autism, visit <https://act.autismspeaks.org>, or for more information about the occupational therapy program, visit <https://www.tjc.edu/ota>.

Speech and Debate earns second place at nationals

Barbara Arroio
Web Editor

Once again, Speech and Debate brings home multiple awards and earning 2nd Place Community College Sweepstakes at nationals.

The team traveled to Peoria, Illinois on the week of April 4 for the prestigious American Forensics Association National Individual Events Championship Tournament where they competed against 74 other institutions from across the country, including community colleges and universities.

"We compete head to head in the individual categories with them [universities]," said M'Liss Hindman, Director for the Speech and Debate Team. "Our kids consistently place, I mean, we do well against them."

The competition was very tight. Only four students got the chance to attend the event and were outnumbered by the other teams. El Paso Community College, which received first place, had 30 entries, but that didn't stop the Apaches from succeeding.

"We only took four students and we entered in seven events, and the school that beat us had over 30 entries and 12 members," said Hindman. "So they had three times as many students and a lot more entries and yet we were still able to win second place. Quality-

wise, our kids did really well."

The debaters also attended another national competition, Phi Ro Pi in Washington D.C. on the week of April 13. They returned to the Apache territory with one gold, two silver and five bronze medals.

"Washington D.C. was a great experience," said Hindman. "We have a very heavy debate team this year... Omari Hawkins won first place, gold, in prose interpretation, so that was phenomenal, I mean, he's the top prose interpreter in the nation on a community college level. Our debaters did really well as well."

The result of the debater's excellence led the team to rank in all three sweep categories of the competition, something that happened for the first time in many years. Also, the students were not the only ones to bring awards home. Joan Andrews, Assistant Director for the Speech and Debate Team was the winner of the esteemed Collier-Taylor Fellowship Award.

"That is an award that is given to someone who kind of epitomizes the great coach attitude, someone that is helpful, supportive, and is a ballot writer," said Hindman. "Someone that is friendly towards students, fellowship, kind of embodies all of that, so it's kind of like the most valuable player award for coaches."



Courtesy photo

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS Gold Sweepstakes Medalists, the Speech and Debate team and their advisers at Washington, D.C. for Phi Ro Pi on the week of April 13.



Photo by Marshall Cearfoss

NEXT STEPS The University Transfer Fair took place on April 10 in the Apache Rooms. Turnout was less than half the size of the fall transfer fair.

UK university transfer reps coming to TJC for first time

Marshall Cearfoss
Managing Editor

After a lower-than-average turnout for the spring University Transfer Fair on April 10, eyes are set on the first United Kingdom transfer event at TJC.

"There have been other universities that have come and done other presentations," said Jan Adams, director of Academic Advising. "But this is different in the sense that they're here recruiting students to come to the London area and go to their universities."

The April 28 event will have recruiters from University of Chichester, University of Huddersfield, University of Lincoln, Manchester Metropolitan University and Goldsmith, University of London. At about 10 a.m. in the Apache Rooms, the recruiters will begin giving a brief presentation, give students some time to ask questions, then will have tables to sit and talk to students individually.

"I don't know how many students are interested in transferring to Europe, but this is a good opportunity to actually talk to some representatives face-to-face," said Adams. "We

hope students or faculty and staff will come and visit and listen to what they have to say. They'll be more informed if students are more informed later on."

This will be the first time that international schools have come to speak and recruit transferring students at TJC.

"While they were in Texas, they wanted to hit some of the community colleges and we were one of them," said Adams.

Although the University Transfer Fair had less than half the attendance of the fall transfer fair, freshman still have a chance to speak with recruiters from universities later this year. Recruiters from TACRAO (Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers) will be in East Texas in mid-November.

"They travel through all the different high school events and college events throughout the year," said Adams.

For students seeking transfer information sooner, there will be a university transfer information session from 2-3:30 p.m. on April 25 and 26. The Transfer Center is also available on the second floor of RSC.



Photo by Marshall Cearfoss

AQUATIC RESPONSIBILITIES Sophomore Cesar Meza has served as a lifeguard at OHPE throughout his entire time attending the school. Transferring to UT Tyler, he can keep his position even after graduating TJC.

OHPE in need of summer lifeguards

Marshall Cearfoss
Managing Editor

With fewer than half as many lifeguards as usual, the OHPE is in need of willing participants looking for an extra job.

"I usually have about 27 lifeguards on call so that I can rotate people in and out, work with their schedules and work with their other jobs," said Sondra Ramsour, the coordinator of aquatic operations at the OHPE. "I'm way low right now -- way, way low."

Ramsour, who's been with the school for 30 years, mentions how surprised she is by the small staff and how serious the situation is.

"I've not been that low in many, many years," said Ramsour. "This is a safety issue, and I will work with anybody I can get in here. I try to take good care of my lifeguards."

Anyone interested in becoming a lifeguard needs to either already be lifeguard certified or become certified through the four-week course offered through OHPE starting on May 6. Through the course, participants become American Red Cross certified, but Ramsour will also accept certifications from organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America, YMCA and Ellis & Associates.

"Once they present their certification to me, they have to do a swim test first. Because not everybody is as diligent about certifying people as we are here," said Ramsour. "We get people from other parts of the country that come in here, say they're certified, but then they can't swim. Or they can't go down to the 13 foot level, and if you can't get to the 13 foot level, then that

means you couldn't retrieve a child."

Although the job should be taken seriously, Ramsour is willing to work around anyone's schedules. The only stipulation is that Ramsour prefers if people are available to work at least through the summer.

"If they're here for June, July and August, then the people that are returning can take up the slack," said Ramsour.

Sophomore Cesar Meza has been a

"The people who do come down here, they're very friendly and you get to know them. They're pretty routine so you know who they are. They're familiar faces."

-Cesar Meza
TJC Student

lifeguard for two years and intends to remain throughout the summer.

"It's kind of fun. You get to meet new people. Not a lot of people come down here to swim, so it's a pretty chill job," said Meza. "The people who do come down here, they're very friendly and you get to know them. They're pretty routine, so you know who they are. They're familiar faces."

Anyone interested can email Sondra Ramsour at sram@tjc.edu or call her office at 903-510-5030.

Red Dirt BBQ Music Fest returns to Tyler

Colten Sneed
News Editor

Some of the biggest names and rising stars in the Texas Country music scene and some of the state's best barbecue restaurants will gather in downtown Tyler on May 6 for the fourth annual Red Dirt BBQ and Music Festival.

"We have sold out every year, and this year we sold out about a week or two ago. So we sold out this year almost a month in advance," said host of Radio Texas, Live Buddy Logan.

Logan's nationally radio syndicated show, which is recorded at KNUE in Tyler, is one of the main components of putting the festival together locally. On a national level, Townsquare Media, which owns KNUE, is also a big contributor to the event.

Chase Colston with KNUE came up with the idea of hosting the festival and the first one was hosted in 2014 with headliner Randy Rogers Band. The first year sold out as almost 4,000 were on hand.

"The biggest difference I've seen since the beginning is more bathrooms as crazy as that seems. We also added Bud Light to our already large beer selection and more barbecue joints are seeing the success and want to be a part of it," Logan said.

This year's music lineup is bringing in one of the biggest names out there to headline in Cody Johnson. The other artists to perform at the festival include Wade Bowen, Cody Canada and the Departed, Shane Smith and the Saints and Flatland Calvary. The 2017 lineup is one of the biggest regarding popularity, but it also adds a variety of music as well.

"It's not all country music. There is some soul, some rock. Cody Johnson who is headlining is definitely country. Cody Canada who was with Cross Canadian Ragweed

is more rock than country," said Logan. "I think Flatland Calvary has got more of a folk sound to them. Shane Smith is an amazing band, they will be huge, and I'd say they're also more of a folk sound too. Wade Bowen is somewhere in the middle of all of that. It is a cross-sampling of the scene, really."

The Texas Country music scene over the past few years has started making an impact on a national level. Acts such as Cody Johnson, Cody Jinks, Granger Smith, Aaron Watson, and Josh Abbott Band have gained popularity across the nation after being huge name groups in Texas. Many bands now are following in those steps to make it big.

"With Texas music, it's more independent. Most of these guys still do a lot of writing and collaborating in Nashville. But what sets them apart from mainstream is they have more freedom to do what they want and how they want. People connect with that a little differently because it is more genuine," said Logan. "Not saying that the mainstream stuff is bad, it's just these guys more often than not write their own songs and they sing and travel to perform them."

While music is a huge part of the festival, many people come for the barbecue as well. 23 local and statewide favorites like Stanley's, Country Tavern and Bodacious Bar-B-Q are going to be represented. Other famous barbecue joints across the state of Texas will be there as well including Louis Mueller from the Austin area and Opie's Barbecue.

"The fact these major barbecue joints keeping back speaks volume to the team around us. They don't come and make money off of this. They get to hang out with all their friends and talk barbecue and spread their barbecue to this area," said Logan.

This year's festival will be May 6 in downtown Tyler and next year's festival is already in the works. For more information on the festival go to www.reddirtbbqfest.com.



Courtesy photo

LIVE ON RADIO TEXAS, LIVE Buddy Logan (left) sits for an interview with Jeremy Plato (middle) and Cody Canada (right) of Cody Canada and the Departed for his nationally syndicated show on January 14. The band will be one of the six bands performing at the Red Dirt BBQ Music Festival in downtown Tyler on May 6.

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1. Lanyards must be worn around the neck while on campus, and the ID card must be clearly visible at all times, unless it should be removed for safety reasons or an approved ADA variance.
2. Any lanyard is acceptable, but it must be similar in design and worn in the same manner as the official college lanyard. The color of the lanyard is not critical.
3. No one will be allowed into class without wearing his or her ID/lanyard.
4. Students who do not have their ID/Lanyards may pick up a Day Pass at the Campus Safety Office, Campus Safety Substation located at the Rogers Student Center or from a TJC Ambassador. The first Day Pass each semester is free of charge. For all subsequent Day Passes a \$5.00 cost recovery charge will be billed to the student's account.
5. Employees may obtain a Day ID/Lanyard from their respective Dean's or Director's office.



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RAPE

—continued from page 2—

Normalizing sexual violence, rape culture teaches society how to not be raped instead of how not to rape. Questioning the victim when she reports a case of sexual violence, trying to justify the act of violence with the victim's past or sex life, making it easier to believe the victim is making everything up than dealing with the fact that she was really raped. All these actions reveal rape culture because they normalize the victim as the one to blame, when the protagonist of a rape is the rapist. Rape culture is a product of sexism. It's sexist to conclude that what a woman reveals about rape is

a lie, it's sexist to question them, it's sexist to not believe them.

Feminism is there because our voices are so devalued socially that we need a movement to manage to articulate reality in a convincing way to a society prone to not believing us.

It's exhausting to dispute reality with those who don't want to see it because they are not directly affected by it. So, in conclusion, rape culture is real and visible, any form of sexual act without consent of one of the parties is rape, despite people's reluctance to acknowledge it. Yet, a rose by any other name...

TRANS

—continued from page 2—

15% of African American trans individuals have reported physical violence by the police, and 7% have reported sexual assault by the police. Trans people of color have a strong likelihood of being homeless at some point during their lives, and when they utilize shelters to protect themselves, they find that they are at even more risk of sexual assault than white trans individuals. The same factor applies to sexual assault rates while incarcerated. The intersection of racism, anti-blackness and transphobia leaves trans people of color in a dangerous position in a society that is hellbent on criminalizing everything from their bathroom usage to walking down the street while not white.

Around the world, trans people are oppressed, raped and murdered simply for

existing. Trans people are people, and they deserve not just acceptance from their cisgender peers, but protection and respect. When we as a society enact rhetoric that demonizes and vilifies trans people, we encourage violence against them. What kind of righteous society makes any of its people feel unsafe or unwanted? We should be loving and caring for our trans brothers, sisters and nonbinary siblings and cultivating a society that loves and respects them. Even now, our legislature is voting on legislation that will force trans people to use bathrooms that don't correspond with their gender, increasing the risk that they will face violence and sexual assault. If we don't protect the most vulnerable in our society, then their blood is on our hands.

MUSIC

—continued from page 7—

first piece his guitar ensemble would play. Nine songs were on the agenda that Wednesday afternoon and were all composed by Hispanic and Latin artists. Some of the most noted were Vivaldi, Granados and Obradors.

Jill Brandon, 23, knew the Fernando Obradors piece by heart. When the time came, Brandon took her place in front of the guitarists and waited for Kimlicko to give her the cue. "El Vito" was the song she sang, and almost immediately the crowd was hushed. Hardly a cell phone or camera invaded the space Brandon and the guitarists created with their music. The guitarists riffed the song into a crescendo and Brandon belted out the final note. This was what she had been dreaming of since she was five -- to live a life full of music. She knew that this competitive career choice demanded the best of all her efforts, however. As a non-traditional student,

Brandon felt as if she owed that kind of commitment to her craft and to herself.

"In order to pursue music or performance, it cannot be just a hobby. Because it takes so much work and dedication to get somewhere with it. If you cannot give everything to what you're truly passionate about, you won't be able to do it," she said.

The music concluded and the lobby erupted with applause. Groups of people got up from their seats and clamored to offer their congratulations. Kimlicko bowed then gestured to the vocalists and guitarists. The seasoned professor, the self-taught pupil, and the dedicated soon-to-be graduate all stood amidst the crowd. Under one ensemble, they were family. Different backgrounds, challenges and faithful practice had led them all to this point, where they could stand in front of a crowd doing what they loved most.

SAAM

—continued from page 2—

comfort as you carry on your educational journey.

Please remember that the Code Blue emergency call boxes located on campus are there for you in times of urgency and danger. One is located on the right corner of Ornelas and the other by the tennis courts. Other important resources are available to anyone who has been the victim of sexual assault include campus police at 903-510-2222 and

the East Texas Crisis Center at 903-595-5591 or visit notalone.gov. If you are off campus and are being stalked or have been the victim of assault or violence, call local law enforcement via 911 right away.

There are solutions. We can fight this epidemic through awareness, the support of college officials and law enforcement, and legislative action. To learn more about what you can do to take action, visit seeactstop.org.

BELONG

—continued from page 2—

less of a Latina? When were individuals going to stop striking up conversations with me by showing me how many Spanish curse words they know? The answer on how to handle any of this is still unclear to me. The challenge of the Oreos or the Twinkies will not disappear with a couple of clicks of a keyboard. But if you are at an impasse as whether to "stay true to your roots" or be someone's "token" anything, I am here to tell you that you do not have to

do either. Instead, I will dole out the cliché: be yourself. Embrace your in-betweenness. You have been given a beautiful gift of seeing life from several different perspectives, and it is your empathy to see things from all sides that will always be valued. Do not worry about that silent pressure to be both "more Mexican than the Mexicans and more American than the Americans". Who you are, what you love, and what you do is enough, and it always will be.

BURGLARY

—continued from page 1—

housebreaking; safecracking; and all attempts at these offenses." Ways of entering that can classify a crime as a burglary include forcible entry, unlawful entry-no force and attempted forcible entry.

An act must meet three requirements to be considered a burglary. The requirements stated by the Clery Act are:

"1) There must be evidence of unlawful entry (trespass). This means that the person did not have the right to be in the structure at the time the incident occurred.

2) The unlawful entry must occur within a structure, which is defined as having four walls, a roof, and a door.

3) The structure was unlawfully entered to commit a felony or a theft. If the intent was not to commit a felony or a theft, the incident is not a Burglary. For example, if a homeless student unlawfully entered a structure to sleep, do not

"If you're there without permission, that's a burglary."

—Frank LaMonte
Executive Director, Student Press Law Center

include the incident as a Burglary."

In 2009, Tarleton State University journalism students discovered the school's under-reporting of crimes required by the Clery Act. The university was later fined \$137,500 for not properly reporting the crimes. However, the fine was later reduced to \$27,500.

According to the Clery Act, college campuses can face fines up to \$35,000 per violation of federal crime reporting.

INTERNATIONAL

—continued from page 1—

After being in school for some time, she learned the language.

"As the years went through, I learned a lot more, especially being around people," said Prieto. "[People] should learn more about traditions, especially how people [are] around their families, how they act."

Ed Santos, a native from the Philippines, has been participating in International Day since almost the very beginning.

"I have been attending this, I think, for 25 years, since I arrived in '91," said Santos. "International Day is one of the best and free

events for international and global celebration of culture and art."

Santos feels that Tyler becomes more and more diverse each day and that International Day is an excellent way for people to learn about other cultures.

"It is good for people from outside of Tyler," said Santos. "But it's even better for people inside Tyler that don't travel much to enjoy and appreciate what is not only similar, but especially celebrate what is different among them."

For information about International Day visit <https://www.tjc.edu/internationalday>.

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events

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, April 21

- Men's and Women's Tennis Regional Tournament - Laredo, TX
- Baseball Game (DH) - Mike Carter Field, Tyler, TX 12 p.m.
- DanceFest - Wise Auditorium 7 p.m.
- Student Recital Series - Jean Browne Theatre 1 p.m.

Saturday, April 22

- Men's and Women's Tennis Regional Tournament - Laredo, TX
- Women's Soccer - Pat Hartley Field 12 p.m.
- Softball Game - Corsicana, TX 1 p.m.
- DanceFest - Wise Auditorium 7 p.m.
- Earth Day

Sunday, April 23

- Faculty Art Exhibit - Vaughn Library All day
- DanceFest - Wise Auditorium 7 p.m.

Monday, April 24

- Men's Golf District 2 Championship - Abilene, TX All day

- Women's Soccer - Pat Hartley Field 6 p.m.
- Faculty Art Exhibit - Vaughn Library All day
- Philosophy of Star Wars - Vaughn Library Quest Classroom 2 p.m.

Tuesday, April 25

- Performance Grant Art Exhibit - Wise Auditorium gallery All day

Wednesday, April 26

- U.K. Transfer Fair - Apache Rooms 10 a.m.
- Softball Game (DH) - The Brooke Hill School, Bullard, TX 1 p.m.
- Performance Grant Art Exhibit - Wise Auditorium gallery All day
- Faculty Art Exhibit - Vaughn Library All day
- Baseball Game - Mike Carter Field, Tyler, TX 6 p.m.
- Spring Fling - Intramural field 2 p.m.

Thursday, April 27

- Wind Ensemble Concert, Choir Concert, Chamber Singers - Wise Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

- Performance Grant Art Exhibit - Wise Auditorium gallery All day

- A 90th Anniversary Music Extravaganza - Wise Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

- Peter and the Starcatcher - Jean Browne Theatre 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 28

- Baseball Game - Eunice, LA 6 p.m.

- Performance Grant Art Exhibit - Wise Auditorium gallery All day

- Peter and the Starcatcher - Jean Browne Theatre 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

- Baseball Game (DH) - Eunice, LA 1 p.m.

- Performance Grant Art Exhibit - Wise Auditorium gallery All day

- Peter and the Starcatcher - Jean Browne Theatre 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2

- FINALS FEAST & End of Semester Celebration - Apache Rooms 5 p.m.

NEWS IN BRIEF

HIGH SCHOOLERS VISIT THE DRUMBEAT

On Wednesday, April 19, 34 students from Kilgore High School came to the Journalism department for presentations and to meet the student staff.

JOLANDA VAN DEN BERG SPEAKS AT WISE

The international speaker from the Netherlands and founder of The Niños Foundation gave a speech to the TJC community at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18 at Wise Auditorium.

SUMMER/FALL REGISTRATION OPENS

Registration for the summer semesters (May Term Mid-Summer, Summer I and Summer II) opened April 9 with Fall registration opening on April 16.

EGGSTRAVAGANZA FILLS JENKINS LAWN

The 8th Annual Easter Eggstravaganza kicked off on April 13, after being delayed due to weather. 21,000 eggs were yanked from their hiding places within minutes by community children and TJC students.

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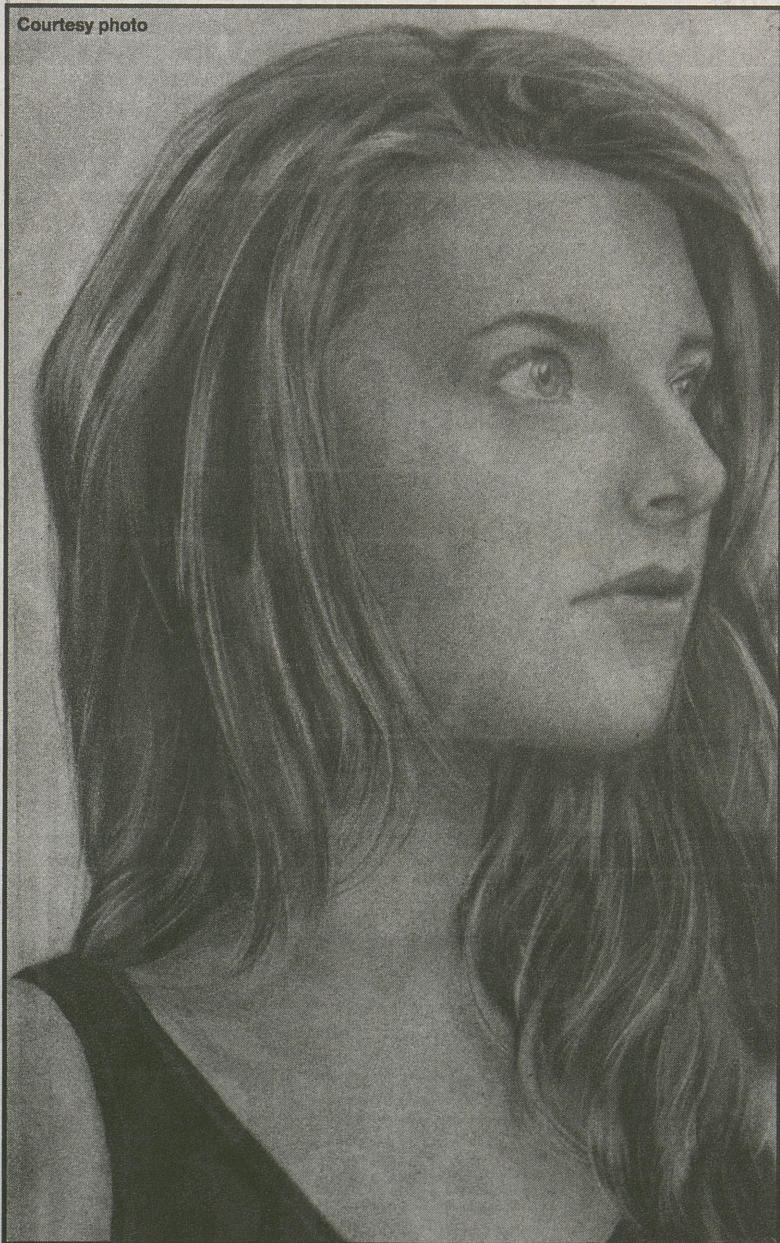
The REAL Queen Bee

Sophomore Willow Lanchester incorporates her passion for insects and beekeeping with her love of the visual arts

Photo by Brianna Harmon



Courtesy photo



Brianna Harmon
Arts Editor

Bees are the only insect that produce food that humans are able to eat.

This fact is just one of many things that Art Major Willow Lanchester loves about Bees.

"I have always loved insects," said Lanchester. "My mother worked as an entomologist, so we always grew up learning about bugs then it transferred over into my art as well."

Lanchester started beekeeping while she was in 4H in high school and through the East Texas Bee Keepers Association. She was attending meetings six months before receiving her bees. She was named Honey Bee Queen in 2015.

Although Lanchester is a passionate art major, she originally wasn't sure what she wanted to do. She began college as a dual credit student when she was 15 years old.

"I saw a girl working on a painting out on the lawn and I stopped to talk to her. It looked like so much fun, [and] she recommended I take Derrick White's painting class," said Lanchester. "I went home and signed up for a painting class later that day and I've slowly dragged into it further and now I'm an art major."

Lanchester's love for insects has been implemented into her art work; she uses many different mediums.

"Art gives people a voice," said Lanchester. "It's a way to express your thoughts and feelings. It gives a voice to the voiceless."

At one point, Lanchester had an internship with the Texas Bee Keepers Association. During the internship, she traveled across the state educating people about bees.

"I traveled across the state of Texas and informed people about bees, bee keeping and the bee keeping industry," said Lanchester. "I would

use my artwork to help explain things. I would teach the anatomy of the honey bee by drawing it and having children and adults draw it with me, so my art work progressed with that."

Lanchester uses the insects as inspiration for her artwork because it is what she remembers as a young child.

"I have been branching out into other insects because I've been going back and looking at what makes me happy," said Lanchester. "I've been looking back at childhood happiness."

Lanchester also designed the logo for the current Arts Festival that runs the entire month of April.

"Willow is one of the most outstanding students I have had in my entire teaching career," said Art Department Chair Derrick White. "She is one of the most advanced and mature students we have on this campus."

White feels that Lanchester excels in everything she does.

"She puts 100 percent effort into everything she does she gets outstanding results," said White. "She has been an exceptional example of what we want our art department to be about."

When White gets contacted by the community for art work, Lanchester is the first person he turns to.

"She is always my first choice and most of the time she is willing to take on the project and do it," said White. "She graduates this semester and will transfer to UT Tyler and we are all little bit sad about it. There are so many students that we get involved with that once they hit their stride, it is hard to let them go."

Lanchester received a performance grant scholarship this academic year. Along with receiving the scholarship, she will host her own gallery with two other students that will be showing in Wise Auditorium.

Willow credits her success to the faculty at TJC.

"They are really dedicated to developing your art work and you as an artist," said Lanchester. "They are all amazing."

Makayla Maholch who is in Art Club with Lanchester says that she loves the friendship that has grown.

"I really do admire her a lot," said Maholch. "She is somebody that I can discuss a lot of elements of art with and critique in a really healthy way."



Photo by Brianna Harmon



Courtesy photo